

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 00886 180912Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 INSE-00 /029 W
-----040099 180916Z /15

O R 180843Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8624
INFO US MISSION GENEVA 699

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 0886

DEPT FOR ORM (LOWMAN/CUSHING)

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: IPP-77: WCC VOLAG OFFICE IN HONG KONG

1. CONGEN LEARNED THIS WEEK THAT EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 1978
HONG KONG OFFICE OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (WCC) WAS
ABSORBED INTO HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE (HKCS), COMMUNITY
AND WELFARE ORGANIZATION. FORMER WCC AND PRESENT HKCS
RESETTLEMENT OFFICER GOODLET TOLD US THAT IN EFFECT WCC
HONG KONG CUT ITS TIES WITH WCC OVERSEAS AND NO LONGER
EXISTS IN HONG KONG. SHE DECLINED TALK ABOUT ORGANIZATIONAL
DETAILS AND STATED MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED WITH REV.
STUMPF, NOW HKCS DIRECTOR, UPON HIS RETURN TO HONG KONG
NEXT WEEK.

2. SINCE HKCS IS LOCAL ORGANIZATION, WE QUESTION WHETHER IT
SHOULD BE ALLOWED CONTINUE VOLAG ROLE HERE AS DID WCC
AND HANDLE VOLUNTARY AGENCY ASSURANCES. WE BELIEVE
THAT CONGEN SHOULD DIRECT HKCS RETURN ALL OUTSTANDING
INDOCHINESE REFUGEE BOAT CASES IT HAS TO ICEM FOR
REDISTRIBUTION TO OTHER VOLAGS.

3. THIS PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION NOT ONLY BASED ON APPARENT
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CUT DIRECT TIE TO WCC/CWS IN U.S., BUT ALSO ON POOR
PERFORMANCE BY LOCAL WCC, NOW HKCS, STAFF TO DATE.
FOR EXAMPLE, HKCS HAS CASES CONCERNING 133 BOAT CASE
REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED HONG KONG BETWEEN JULY AND SEPTEMBER
1977 FOR WHOM IT HAS NO ASSURANCES. OF THIS AMOUNT,
55 DATE FROM JULY AND SIX MONTH STAY. THESE 55 IN
HONG KONG HAS COST UNHCR APPROXIMATELY \$75,000.

OTHER THREE VOLAGE IN HONG KONG, CARITAS, INTERNATIONAL
RESCUE COMMITTEE AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE HAVE
TOTAL OF 31 REFUGEES WITHOUT ASSURANCES FROM SAME THREE
MONTH PERIOD.

4. REQUEST DEPT'S COMMENTS ON COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED
PARA 2. EARLY REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED SINCE 36
REFUGEES ARRIVED BY JUNK IN HONG KONG ON JAN. 15
AND THEIR CASES WILL BE ASSIGNED BY ICEM TO VOLAGS
NEXT SEVERAL DAYS.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), PLACES OF WORSHIP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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